



# NEWS RELEASE

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**August 15, 2014**

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## **USDA Forecasts Record High Maryland Corn Yield**

The 2014 growing season has delivered close to optimal yield conditions for Maryland and Delaware corn and soybean farmers. Frequent precipitation during May, June and July occurred across most areas of the two states. A prolonged period of high summer temperatures coupled with lack of rainfall has not occurred this year as it normally does. Corn, due to an earlier planting period than soybeans, has benefited the most with record high yields forecasted. Soybean yield in both states is also projected at a near record high level as of August 1, but additional rains in August and September will be needed to realize record high yields.

**Maryland:** Maryland farmers project a yield of 158 bushels per acre for the 2014 corn crop, equal to last year's record high yield. If realized, this will result in total production of 69.5 million bushels of corn on the 440,000 acres expected to be harvested for grain. Farmers also expect to harvest 495,000 acres of soybeans at an average yield of 44 bushels per acre. The current forecast is 5 bushels above last year's yield. If realized, a total of 21.8 million bushels of soybeans are expected to be produced in Maryland in 2014.

Maryland farmers are expected to harvest an estimated 17.9 million bushels of wheat this year. The 2014 wheat yield averaged 70 bushels per acre, up 3 bushel per acre from 2013. Barley fields yielded an average of 74 bushels per acre, down 11 bushels from the 85 bushel yield in 2013. Total barley production is estimated at 3.3 million bushels.

**Delaware:** Delaware farmers report they expect corn fields to produce an average of 160 bushels per acre in 2014, down 6 bushels from the record high yield of 166 bushels in 2013. With 170,000 acres expected to be harvested for grain, total corn production is estimated at 27.2 million bushels. Soybeans are expected to yield 42 bushels per acre, up 2 bushels per acre from 2013. Soybeans are expected to be harvested from 183,000 acres for a total production of 7.7 million bushels. The forecasted yield of 42 bushels compares with the state record high yield of 43 bushels in 2000.

**United States:** Corn production is forecast at record high 14.0 billion bushels, up 1 percent from 2013. Based on conditions as of August 1, yields are expected to average 167.4 bushels per acre, up 8.6 bushels from 2013. If realized, this would be the highest average yield and production on record for the United States. Area harvested for grain is forecast at 83.8 million acres, down 4 percent from 2013.

Soybean production is forecast at 3.82 billion bushels, up 16 percent from last year. Based on August 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 45.4 bushels per acre, up 2.1 bushels from last year. Area for harvest is forecast at 84.1 million acres, up 11 percent from 2013.

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